

An Act to amend the Municipal Acts of Upper Canada, by providing that the Reeves of Townships and Incorporated Villages shall be elected by general vote of the Municipal Electors.

WHEREAS, the present method of electing Reeves of Townships and Incorporated Villages in Upper Canada is unsatisfactory, the general impression being that Reeves so elected, are not as responsible to the Municipality as if elected by general vote of the Municipal Electors, and it is expedient that such impression be removed :

Preamble.

Therefore, Her Majesty, &c., enacts as follows :—

- 1.** From and after the passing of this Act, the existing divisions of Townships into Wards shall cease, as if abolished by By-law by the Municipal Council of each Township respectively.
- 2.** It shall be lawful for the Municipal Council of any Township or Union of Townships in Upper Canada, if they consider it expedient so to do, at any time before the first day of December in the present year, or on or before the first day of December in any subsequent year, by by-law to divide their respective Municipality into four Wards, which divisions shall, with regard to population and territory, be as nearly equal as the circumstances of the case will admit.
- 3.** Whenever the Council of any Municipality (except Cities or Towns,) shall so divide their Municipalities into Wards in accordance with the last preceding Section, it shall be the duty of the Clerk of such Municipality, by public notices put up in some public place in each Ward in his Municipality, to give notice that a public meeting will be holden on the last Monday but one in the month of December, for the purpose of nominating a candidate or candidates for the office of Reeve for such Municipality for the ensuing year.
- 4.** A meeting shall take place, where the Council of the Municipality held its last meeting (unless such last meeting has been held in a Tavern, and then as convenient thereto as the circumstances of the case will admit), for the purpose aforesaid of nominating candidates for the Reeveship of such Municipality for the ensuing year ; such meeting shall commence at ten o'clock in the forenoon of said day, and shall not close before noon. The Clerk of the Municipality shall preside at such meeting, or if absent the Electors present shall choose a Chairman from amongst themselves. Such Clerk or Chairman shall have all the powers of a Returning Officer.
- 5.** If only one qualified candidate shall be proposed within the time before specified by any Elector present at such meeting, the Clerk or Chairman presiding shall declare such candidate duly elected Reeve for the ensuing year.

Existing Wards of Townships abolished.

Township Council may divide the Township into four Wards.

Notice for nomination of Reeve.

Meeting for nomination.

Clerk to preside ; his powers.

If only one candidate.